

CHURCH IN THE MOUNTAINS

1900-1902

Form 100

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Curios and Relics

Furniture

Couch

In Ford's Theatre

Excerpts from newspapers and other sources

From the files of the
Lincoln Financial Foundation Collection

PAUL BERMAN

ATTORNEY AT LAW

1216-17 MUNSEY BUILDING
BALTIMORE, MD.

TELEPHONE PLAZA 4000

April 5, 1937

Lincoln National Life Foundation
Fort Wayne, Indiana

Attention: Dr. Louis A. Warren

Gentlemen:

I have a client who owns a sofa on which President Abraham Lincoln was placed and carried out of Ford's Theatre at the time he was shot. My client was wondering if you would care to purchase this sofa.

I would appreciate your letting me hear from you at your earliest convenience as there are some people down here who would like to buy it, but my client would rather have it go to one of the associations interested in preserving Lincolniana.

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Paul Berman", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

PB:SH

Mr. Paul Berman

April 7, 1937

Mr. Paul Berman
1216-17 Munsey Building
Baltimore, Maryland

My dear Mr. Berman:

While we appreciate very much your calling to our attention the availability of the sofa on which it is said President Lincoln was placed and carried out of Ford's Theatre at the time he was shot, inasmuch as we are not interested in the gathering of curios we would not care to acquire this item.

We thank you, nevertheless, for calling it to our attention.

Yours very truly,

LAW:EB

Director

November 12th '37

Mrs. W. R. Mitchell
Sea Pines
Virginia Beach, Va.

Dear Dr. Warren :-

At the suggestion of Mr. G. S. Bryan
of Pelham N. Y. I want to let you
know that I have the sofa that
was in the Box at Fords Theatre
the night Lincoln was shot by
Booth, also the picture of Washington
that hung under the box & was
draped in flags, the picture
that caught Booth's spur &
caused the fall that broke the
bone in his ankle. My Grandfather

Mrs. W. R. Mitchell

Sea Pines

Virginia Beach, Va.

John T. Ford who owned the
theatre always kept these two
articles in his home after the tragedy
and at the death of my Grand
Mother (aged 92) I bought them from
the estate so they would not become
lost. Mr. Bryan suggested you
might be interested in them because
of your Lincoln Museum.

Very truly

Edith Ford Mitchell

picture
or
sofa

Association

November 15, 1937

Mrs. W. R. Mitchell
Sea Pines
Virginia Beach, Virginia

Dear Mrs. Mitchell:

Thanks very much for the information
about your Lincoln curios but I regret we would
not have any place for displaying the couch.

If you would care to dispose of the
picture we would be interested in its acquisition
if a price was placed on it.

Yours very truly,

LAW:AD

Director

November 26th
1937



Dear Dr. Warren:

Forgive my long delay in
replying to your letter of the
15th. Thinking it best, I
consulted with my sons
& the younger one, who is
married, insists that the
picture & sofa should
remain in the family as
it is all they have of the
Ford connections.

Personally, I should love

to see both pieces in a
Museum, but have great
respect for the opinions
of you. Thanks for your
courtesy and trouble.

Very sincerely

Wm. Ford Mitchell

Mrs. W. F. Mitchell

Sea View

Virginia Beach
Va.

